



9 May 2023

FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE NEWS RELEASE

Foul Play Review Committee: Michael Heron KC (Chair), John Langford and Stefan Terblanche

Player: Josh Kemeny

Team: Melbourne Rebels

Position: Loose Forward

Date of Incident: 7 May 2023

Nature of Offence: Law 9.13: A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously.

Elapsed time in match when offence occurred: 28th minute.

SANZAAR NEWS RELEASE

Josh Kemeny suspended for 3 weeks.

Josh Kemeny of the Melbourne Rebels was cited for alleged foul play during a Super Rugby Pacific match at the weekend. Kemeny was alleged to have contravened Law 9.13.

Upon further review of the match footage, the Citing Commissioner deemed in his opinion the incident had met the Red Card threshold for foul play.

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee reviewed the citing for Josh Kemeny of the Melbourne Rebels for contravening Law 9.13: A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously.

Kemeny has been suspended for 3 weeks, up to and including 26 May 2023.

The incident occurred in the 28th minute of the match between the Melbourne Rebels and Brumbies at AAMI Park in Melbourne on 7 May 2023.

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee of Michael Heron KC (Chairman), Stefan Terblanche and John Langford assessed the case.

In his finding, Foul Play Review Committee Chair Michael Heron KC ruled the following:

"Having conducted a detailed review of all the available evidence, including all camera angles and additional evidence, including from the player and submissions from his legal representative, Tim North KC, the Foul Play Review Committee upheld the Citing under Law 9.13."

"With respect to sanction, the Foul Play Review Committee held the act of foul play was late and dangerous with direct and forceful contact made head-to-head. Whilst the player attempted to pull out of a late tackle, he was always high and there was no applicable mitigation. The FPRC found a high degree of danger and the conduct merited a mid-range entry point of 6 weeks. Taking into account mitigating factors, including the Player's clear record, guilty plea and otherwise exemplary conduct, the Judicial Committee reduced the suspension by three weeks."

"The player is therefore suspended for 3 weeks, up to and including 26 May 2023.

All SANZAAR disciplinary matters are in the first instance referred to the Foul Play Review Committee to provide the option of expediting the judicial process.

For a matter to be dispensed with at this hearing, the person appearing must plead guilty and accept the penalty offered by the Foul Play Review Committee.

ENDS